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CITY TO CELEBRATE COMPLETION OF "PROJECT OPEN MARKET"

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard will join city and neighborhood leaders in a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of "Project Open Market."

WHEN: Thursday, October 29

10:30 a.m.

WHERE: The intersection of Market and East Streets downtown.

In the event of rain, the press event will be held under tents at this same location.

Please note that Market Street will be closed. Once the ribbon is cut, the road will reopen to traffic.

Parking is available off of East Street.

<u>VISUALS:</u> Mayor Ballard will join Indianapolis Downtown, Inc. President Tamara Zahn,

Holy Cross Neighborhood Association President Patrick Dubach, the Department of Public Works (DPW) Director David Sherman and DPW

Administrator of Transportation Engineering Larry Jones.

Representatives from Near-Eastside neighborhoods, neighborhood associations and businesses have been invited, along with City-County Councillors, the Board of Public Works, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, Indianapolis Economic Development Inc., the Indianapolis City Market and Indianapolis Downtown, Inc.

Project Open Market has been a city initiative to spur investment and create economic opportunity on the Near-Eastside by removing the old I-65/70 interstate ramps at Market and Ohio Streets and building a new interchange along Washington Street. The project, financed mostly through federal grant dollars, opens up Market Street for new residential and commercial opportunities, and creates a more pedestrian-friendly corridor that will better connect the Near-Eastside to downtown Indianapolis. Work began in the spring of 2008.